

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 KUWAIT 02152 111217Z

ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 COME-00 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 /032 W

-----080610 112158Z /23

R 110810Z APR 78

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 666

USICA WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT POUCH

UNCLAS KUWAIT 2152

USICA FOR PGM/T

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EIND, BTRA, KU

SUBJECT: VISIT OF MPEAA OFFICIALS TO MIDDLE EAST TO DISCUSS

FILM PIRACY

REF: (A) ABU DHABI 928, (B) STATE 84791

1. WE WOULD BE HAPPY TO DISCUSS THE PROBLEM OF PIRACY OF U.S. FILMS WITH THE MEMBERS OF THE MPEAA DELEGATION APRIL 18 AND 19. AS DEPARTMENT SHOULD BE AWARE, WE HAVE PREVIOUSLY CORESPONDED WITH MR. FREDERICK GRONICH OF MPEAA - PARIS (E.G. STEPHEN W. GUCK LETTER OF MARCH 15, 1977), AND HAVE OUTLINED THE DIFFICULTIES INVOLVED IN ATTEMPTING TO PROTECT THE FINANCIAL RIGHTS OF MPEAA IN KUWAIT. LIKE THE REST OF THE GULF STATES, KUWAIT HAS NO COPYRIGHT LAWS AND PROSECUTION OF ABUSE OF COPYRIGHTED MATERIAL IS ACCORDINGLY DIFFICULT. WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED THAT LOCAL LAWYERS HAVE PROVED TO BE OF ASSISTANCE IN THE PAST WITH REGARD TO MATTERS INVOLVING COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT, AND WE RECOMMENDED TO MR. GRONICH THAT HE CONTACT THE LOCAL LAWYERS WHO HAVE BEEN SO INVOLVED AND CONSULT WITH THEM.

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PAGE 02 KUWAIT 02152 111217Z

2. THE ALTERNATIVE SUGGESTED IN REF A IS NOT FEASIBLE FOR KUWAIT SINCE KUWAIT CUSTOMS WILL NOT SEIZE OR BAR ENTRY TO ITEMS IMPORTED BY INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE NOT THE EXCLUSIVE AGENT. (PRECEDENT FOR THE FREE IMPORTATION OF ALL ITEMS WITHOUT REGARD TO AGENCY AGREEMENTS WAS SET WHEN THE FIRST PIRATE SHIPMENT OF GM CARS WAS OFF-LOADED AND SOLD IN

KUWAIT.)

3. THE MOST PRACTICAL APPROACH IN KUWAIT IS FOR MPEAA TO  
WORK WITH BOTH THE LOCAL LEGAL COMMUNITY AND THE  
ESTABLISHED SUPPLIERS TO THE MARKET.  
MAESTRONE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CORRUPTION, VISITS, MOTION PICTURES, BUSINESS FIRMS  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 jan 1960  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
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**Review Markings:**  
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